



Lake County  
Court of Common Pleas  
*Juvenile Division*

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Judge William W. Weaver

October 2, 2007

COPY

Commissioner Raymond E. Sines  
Commissioner Robert E. Aufuldish  
Commissioner Daniel P. Troy  
Lake County Administration Building  
Painesville, Ohio 44077

Dear Commissioners:

I know that you will recall receiving a letter from me dated June 7, 2007 requesting a meeting regarding a very serious matter within this Court. When almost three months passed without receiving a response, I inquired of the County Administrator whether you had received my correspondence. He subsequently advised me that you had received it but would not address this matter until the 2008 budget hearings.

I must advise you that this matter cannot wait that long because the Court continues to lose qualified and experienced staff to other county and non-county offices as a result of low wages. For example, [REDACTED] was employed at the Court's juvenile detention facility for six years. She left to be a corrections officer at the Lake County Jail where her initial pay was \$17.61 per hour, an increase of \$4.88 per hour or \$10,130 per year over that which she, an extremely competent veteran juvenile corrections officer, received. This is not even explainable.

This continuing loss of qualified staff results in a reduction in competency of the entire operation of the Court, and the continual training of replacement employees reduces the efficiency of the remaining staff. This burden remains unabated and onerous.

I am not asking for immediate action but only that we meet and devise some agreeable solution which I can present to the employees of this Court. I am very comfortable that we can resolve the matter if we can engage in meaningful discussion. As you will remember from the attachment to my previous letter, the employees raised this issue on August 29, 2006. I have assured them that we are addressing it and will have a response for them in the near future. They are becoming very anxious.

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Please respond and advise of a convenient time when we can meet and resolve this matter for the benefit of everyone. I will make myself available upon reasonable notice of the meeting. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Very truly yours,

William W. Weaver  
Judge

WWW:cmb